

REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the Office Action mailed April 20, 2006. Claims 3-7 remain pending in the application and stand rejected. Claims 3-6 have been amended and claim 7 has been canceled by this Amendment. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following remarks.

Claims Rejected Under 35 C.F.R. §112

Claims 3-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, with respect to various informalities. Claim 3 has been amended to recite "at least one liquid discharge orifice," as suggested by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully assert that the Examiner's suggested change to the language of claim 6 is unnecessary because the language "wherein said liquid discharge orifice," is consistent with the recited "at least one liquid discharge orifice," language of amended claim 3. Claims 4-6 have been amended to correct minor informalities related to the language of these claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claims 3-7 under 35 U.S.C. §112 be withdrawn.

Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 3-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by EP 0 936 000. Claim 3 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 7, which was indicated to be allowable. Accordingly, Applicants assert that claim 3 is now in complete condition for allowance and respectfully request that the rejection of claim 3 be withdrawn.

Claims 2-6 each depend from independent claim 3 and are therefore in condition for allowance for at least the reasons stated above for claim 3. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claims 2-6 be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments to the claims and the remarks set forth herein, Applicants believe this case is in condition for allowance and respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If the Examiner believes any issue requires further discussion, the Examiner is respectfully asked to telephone the undersigned attorney so that the matter may be promptly resolved. The Examiner's prompt attention to this matter is appreciated.

Applicants do not believe that any fee is due in connection with this submission. However, if any fees are necessary to complete this communication, the Commissioner may consider this to be a request for such and charge any necessary fees to Deposit Account No. 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, L.L.P.

By: /David W. Dorton/
David W. Dorton, Reg. No. 51,625

2700 Carew Tower
441 Vine Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202
(513) 241-2324 (voice)
(513) 241-6234 (facsimile)